

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 30, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMSON submitted the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Kerwin, who was wounded in the Florida and Mexican wars, asking an increase of pension, beg leave to report:*

That said Kerwin served gallantly in the Florida and Mexican wars, and to his firmness and bravery, his superior officer, Lieutenant Colonel W. H. T. Walker, was indebted for his life at the battle of Okeechobee, Florida; that the petitioner was severely wounded at the battle of Churubusco, for which he is now in the receipt of a pension at \$8 per month, the highest rate allowed to non-commissioned officers, musicians, or privates.

The petitioner now asks that his pension may be increased to \$13 per month, the rate of pay he was receiving as sergeant at the time of his discharge. This is opposed to the provisions of the general laws relating to invalid pensions and to precedents in special acts, except in the case of loss of limbs, or where the disability is such that the pensioner is obliged to employ the services of others in the ordinary functions of life.

The committee therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be denied.

